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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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1022/0614 12/22/97 YAMADA

M JPS-131165

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YAMADA ENGINEERING COMPANY
1022/0614
1022/0614-0398

EXAMINER

MEDLEY, M

PART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1721

DATE MAILED: 08/14/99

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office
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**BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES**

Paper No. 14

Application Number: 08/945705
Filing Date: 02-23-97
Appellant(s): Michiya Yamada, et al.

MAILED

JUN 14 1999

GROUP 1700

Exxon Research and Engineering Company
For Appellant

EXAMINER'S ANSWER

This is in response to appellant's brief on appeal filed April 6, 1999.

(1) *Real Party in Interest*

A statement identifying the real party in interest is contained in the brief.

(2) *Related Appeals and Interferences*

A statement identifying the related appeals and interferences which will directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the decision in the pending appeal is contained in the brief.

(3) *Status of Claims*

Art Unit: 1721

The statement of the status of the claims contained in the brief is correct.

This appeal involves claims 1-5.

Claim 2 has been amended subsequent to the final rejection.

(4) *Status of Amendments After Final*

The appellant's statement of the status of amendments after final rejection contained in the brief is correct.

The amendment after final rejection filed on February 22, 1999 with respect to the specification and claim 1 has been entered.

The amendment after final rejection filed on February 22, 1999 with respect to claim 2 has not been entered.

(5) *Summary of Invention*

The summary of invention contained in the brief is correct.

(6) *Issues*

The appellant's statement of the issues in the brief is correct.

(7) *Grouping of Claims*

Appellant's brief includes a statement that claims 1 and 3 to 5 of Group I and claim 2 of Group II do not stand or fall together and provides reasons as set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(c)(7) and (c)(8).

(8) *Claims Appealed*

The copy of the appealed claims contained in the Appendix to the brief is correct.

Art Unit: 1721

(9) Prior Art of Record

The following is a listing of the prior art of record relied upon in the rejection of claims under appeal.

✓ 3,254,025	Le Suer	5-1966
✓ 3,509,051	Farmer	4-1970
✓ 4,178,258	Papay	12-1979
✓ 4,330,420	White	5-1982
✓ 4,360,438	Rowan	11-1982
✓ 4,692,256	Umemura	9-1987
✓ 5,281,347	Igarashi	1-1994

(10) Grounds of Rejection

The following ground(s) of rejection are applicable to the appealed claims:

Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). This rejection is set forth in prior

Office action, Paper No. 5 and 8.

Art Unit: 1721

For the above reasons, it is believed that the rejections should be sustained.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret B. Medley
MARGARET MEDLEY
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 1100

M. B. Medley
June 9, 1999

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